

Daily Homily
St. Leo the Great, Pope; Doctor of the Church
Memorial
31 Ordinary Week: Friday
[10 November 2023](#)

Prudence is praised in the Gospel today.

Prudence is the mother of all virtues. All the virtues are on display in statue form at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. They surround the upper perimeter of the inside of the basilica. Prudence is located closest to the sanctuary.

She is shown as a woman... an arrow at her side, a symbol of strength...
A snake wrapped around her arm... an ancient symbol of wisdom...
and she is seen looking into a mirror... for self-awareness, seeing things as they truly are...
and if one were able to look behind the statue, you would see on the back of her head,
the image of an elderly man's face... this is the depiction of "experience," learning from the past, and
what has already been lived.

Prudence the practical reason to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it... may we pray for an increase of this virtue in our lives today.